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17 May 1946

PLANNING DIRECTIVE 32a (Limited Distribution)

SUBJECT: Allocation and Coordination of Intelligence Research Responsibilities

1. Intelligence Branch memorandum of 13 May, subject: "Pattern for C.I.C. Planning Activities" has been studied with interest by this office and the Policy and Review Branch. It is an excellent and very constructive memorandum. While many of the questions raised are pressing, it is believed the Planning Staff study has not advanced sufficiently to justify final decisions yet. Some of the decisions will depend largely on the thoughts to be evolved in the piecemeal studies referred to in paragraph 3 of your memorandum. The solutions of those studies may be considered interim, and need not be regarded as binding precedents which would prejudice the solution of the problem assigned by Planning Directive 32.

2. With regard to your diagram and discussion, tentative views of this office are:

a. Since the collecting function and the research function are distinct in each of the four agencies under IAB, and are distinct in Planning Staff organization, it is believed that these functions should be kept distinct in whatever coordinating machinery established. However, the necessity for close coordination of these functions at the subject level is recognized. It is intended that the method of such coordination be evolved as the studies progress.

b. The overall coordinating agency for collection may be the Information Branch itself. Similarly, the overall coordinating agency for production may be the Intelligence Branch itself. This will depend upon what appears best after mature study.

c. The EEI function is considered the highest level of all, and in a chart should probably appear above the Director of Central Intelligence. In other words, the announcement of EEI is a command function of the National Intelligence Authority.

3. A copy of your memorandum of 13 May is furnished hereunder for information of the Information Branch.

Acting Chief, Central Planning Staff

1 Encl:

Copy of Int. Br. memo of 13 May (w/Inf. Br. copy only)

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